

SUNDAY football at Loakes Park will not become a regular feature, said Wycombe Wanderers chairman Mr. Jack Smethurst after the 'Blues' had thrashed lowly Corinthian Casuals 7-0 before a 2,000 gate on a dreary Sunday afternoon. We will probably try Sunday football again as long as the crisis lasts, but we will revert to Saturday football when the trouble is over."

The Wanderers had been forced to stage their Rothmans Isthmian League Division One game against Casuals on Sunday because four of their regular first team players were affected by the three day week — working Thursday, Friday and Saturday. That 2,000 plus was a good gate considering the dreary weather and also the quality of bottom-of-the-table opposition.

cent gates. In the Amateur Cup, traditionally a great crowd-puller, last week the Blues were watched by 1,900 on a Saturday.

Chairman Smethurst was pleased with the venture. "Considering it started to rain about three-quarters of an hour before the start, I thought it was a fair crowd," he said.

We'll try again

He felt that, had the match been played on Saturday, the crowd would have only been

success. Saturday football is a built-in tradition and although we will probably try Sunday soccer again as long as the crisis is with us, we will revert to Saturday football when the trouble is over."

Mr. Smethurst did not rule out the possibility of Wycombe playing on both days over the weekend.

Wanderers have only played a couple of their Premier Midweek Floodlight League matches this season and although the Football League plan to extend the season, there is bound to be a fixture backlog.

Treasurer Roger Lee also felt Sunday's attendance was higher than could have been hoped for on a Saturday. But he was also a little wary of the venture being something of a "flash in the pan."

He reported no problems at the turnstiles where spectators had to be admitted by programme in accordance with the law. People went through the turnstiles as usual but instead of paying gate money, simply bought a programme which secured entry.

"Everyone seemed pleased with the experiment," he said.



No gate money, but you made up for it when buying your programme at Loakes Park on Sunday afternoon. Picture by Bob Mead.

The 2,000 figure has been reached only twice in league matches on Saturdays this term. In October 2,100 came along to see the top-of-the-table clash with Dulwich Hamlet while the visit of Enfield attracted a crowd of 2,250.

Sunday's figure of 2,200 compares very favourably with re-

around the 1,200-1,500 figure. Despite the success, however, Jack feels Sunday football will not become a regular feature.

"This has been imposed upon us by the three day week and present crisis. We would need to play about a dozen fixtures to estimate whether the move was a

A Sunday away game

Next week, Wanderers will again be playing on Sunday, but this time away from home. They travel to Bracknell Town in the Berks and Bucks Senior Cup (K.O. 2.15 p.m.)

Another local club trying out Sunday soccer, Ernest Turners, were not so successful. They were scheduled to meet New Bradwell St. Peter in the Berks and Bucks Intermediate Cup but the match had to be postponed as the ground was unfit. The match will be played next Sunday.